I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the USPTO via EFS-Web on the date stated below:

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 021063-000510US

Customer No. 20350

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Art Bertolero et al.

Application No.: 10/731,683

Filed: December 8, 2003

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR

CARDIAC SURGERY

Confirmation No. 3268

Examiner:

Christine D. Hopkins

T.C./Art Unit: 3735

Response to Restriction and Election

of Species Requirements

Mailstop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Action mailed January 9, 2007, Applicants elect Group II claims (20-61) without traverse.

Applicant further designate Species I (Fig. 2) for initial examination without traverse. Applicants identify claims 20-23, 30-34, 37-45, and 53-56.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.